

<b>Form PTO-1449</b> (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. <b>SWR-0032</b>		SERIAL NO.	
<b>Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant</b> <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				APPLICANT <b>DIPL.-ING. KLAUS NIEPOTH, ET AL.</b>			
(37 cfr 1.98(b))							
				FILING DATE <b>November 6, 2000</b>		GROUP	

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
VH		4,217,176	August 12, 1980	Antony			
VH		3,875,988	April 8, 1975	Machida, et al.			
VH		4,132,587	January 2, 1979	Lankenau, et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATION							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE*	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATIO N
							YES NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc. **)			

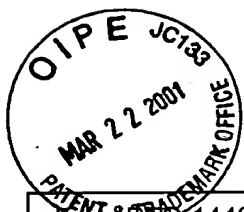
EXAMINER <b>V. Manoharan</b>	DATE CONSIDERED <b>8/20/02</b>
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\* EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

(Form PTO-1449 [6-4])

\* Use Publication date indicated on the patent or published application. 37 CFR 1.98(b).

\*\* "The place or publication refers to the name of the journal, magazine or other publication in which the article was published...." Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13 to 25, at 20.



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<b>FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATION</b>							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE*	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
<b>Vy</b>		<b>EP 0 729 772 A2</b>	<b>September 4, 1996</b>	<b>Europe</b>			
<b>Vn</b>		<b>EP 0 853 224 A1</b>	<b>July 15, 1998</b>	<b>Europe</b>			
<b>Vn</b>		<b>DE 197 29 710 A1</b>	<b>January 22, 1998</b>	<b>Germany</b>			
<b>Vh</b>		<b>FR 2 208 103 A</b>	<b>June 21, 1974</b>	<b>France</b>			
<b>Vn</b>		<b>DE 962 600 C</b>	<b>April 25, 1957</b>	<b>Germany</b>			
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.**)</b>							
EXAMINER <b>V. Manoharan</b>				DATE CONSIDERED <b>8/20/02</b>			
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